

VOICE

The Star of Kansas



MAYOR'S HOLIDAY TREE LIGHTING

Save the date and plan to join Mayor Shaffer, your City Council Members and the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation for the **25th Annual Holiday Tree Lighting** ceremony! The Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place on December 2nd at 6:00 pm at the Corinth Square Shops (83rd St & Mission Rd).

New this year, the Municipal Foundation has partnered with Lane4 Property Group and the Corinth Square Merchants Association to bring this event to you the same night as the Corinth Square Holiday Open House.

Enjoy the Dickens Carolers as they stroll around the center; enjoy free refreshments; take advantage of gift wrap service; don't miss the holiday sounds from the St. Ann's Elementary Choir with special performances by

Dancerz Unlimited students; and there will be a special appearance by Santa.

Trees in various parts of the City will be lit as a reminder that there are people in our community who may not be able to afford to pay their utility bills or make necessary repairs to their homes. To meet the needs of our fellow citizens, the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation makes an annual appeal for contributions to the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund. All donations received will benefit the Municipal Foundation's Holiday Tree Fund which is used to help qualified Prairie Village residents with utility assistance and home maintenance repairs.

For more information, contact Jeanne Koontz at 913-385-4662 or jkoontz@pvkansas.com.



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MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Greetings,

In the next few months, the City will be unveiling a new website with a new look, format and online features. Look for changes in January 2011. The url will remain the same, www.pvkansas.com.

The new website will provide an avenue for more efficient communication between the City and its residents. It will include a different navigational structure making it easier for you to find the information you need.

Included in the new website, will be a feature called Resident Stories. Residents will have the opportunity to submit a short story and picture on the website. So, write about how long you have lived in the Village or why you love PV. The stories and pictures will be searchable and a few will be featured on the City's homepage. We encourage you to submit your story and look forward to learning more about you, our residents.

The new website will also have numerous e-notification lists that you can sign up to receive the latest information. You will be able to subscribe to specific events, news items, council items and much, much more. Look for the eNews Sign-up on the homepage. A feature article outlining all of the changes will appear in the January 2011 issue of the *Village Voice*.

We value your opinions and hope this new site will improve communication. Please let us know what you like and what we could improve. Send your comments to Jeanne Koontz at 913-385-4662 or jkoontz@pvkansas.com.

Ron Shaffer, Mayor

ELECTED OFFICIALS

MAYOR

Ron Shaffer 831-0907
mayor@pvkansas.com

WARD I

Al Herrera 432-0271
aherrera@pvkansas.com

Dale Warman 236-9730
dwarman@pvkansas.com

WARD II

Steve Noll 262-1560
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rhopkins@pvkansas.com

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Andrew Wang 671-8404
awang@pvkansas.com

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COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

PRAIRIE VILLAGE ARTS COUNCIL

PRAIRIE VILLAGE JAZZ FESTIVAL

The Jazz Fest Committee would like to thank all who attended the First Annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival. Jazz Fest 2011 will be held on Saturday, September 10, 2011. Interested in helping out with this event? Contact the City Clerk at 913-385-4616 or cityclerk@pvkansas.com.

David Basse and Orchestra 2010 perform at the 1st Annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival (photo courtesy of Amber Rich)



PRAIRIE VILLAGE ARTS COUNCIL: STATE OF THE ARTS WINNERS

The 2010 State of the Arts Reception was held on October 8, 2010 at the R.G. Endres Gallery. The exhibition is a juried event featuring two-dimensional or three-dimensional artwork. The juror, Bruce Hartman (Director of the Nerman Museum of Contemporary Art), choose the following winners:

- 1) **Harriet Bigham** “Grand Boulevard at Dawn”
- 2) **Stephanie Kantor** “Pair of Industrial Plates”
- 3) **Margie Kuhn** “All American Natural History”
– R.G. Endres Memorial Best of Show

Visitors to the exhibit voted for their favorite piece of artwork, the “People’s Choice.”

Carolyn Hanson “A Grateful Heart”

The Prairie Village Arts Council thanks all the volunteers, donors and artists for participating in this year’s event. The 5th Annual State of the Arts Juried Show will be held on October 14, 2011. For more information contact Nancy Yoakum at 913-381-6464 or nyoakum@pvkansas.com.



State of the Arts Winner,
Stephanie Kantor
“Pair of Industrial Plates”



Mark your calendars now to view these exhibits and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

NOVEMBER

Bess Wallerstein and Chris Huff will be displaying their photography during the month of November. This is their first showing in the R.G. Endres Gallery. A reception will be held on November 12th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

DECEMBER

Pat Jessee has had his artwork exhibited from coast to coast and is currently Art Curator at the Kansas City Jewish Museum of Contemporary Art. His talent in graphic design led him to do illustration packaging on CD’s, as well as an invitation to lecture at the Kemper Museum of Contemporary Art. A reception will be held on December 3rd from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

PV HAPPENINGS

UPCOMING EVENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>
November 1st	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers
November 13th	Electronics Recycling	8:00 am – 2:00 pm	135th St & Nall Ave
November 15th	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers
November 25th-26th	Offices Closed	All Day	
December 2nd	Mayor's Tree Lighting	6:00 pm	Corinth Square
December 6th	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers
December 20th	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers

Shopping Centers to receive facelift

At the request of Lane4 Property Group, the City Council considered the approval of two Community Improvement Districts (CID) for the Prairie Village Shopping Center and the Corinth Square Shopping Center. The Community Improvement Districts (CID) will allow the property owners to make public improvements to the two centers through the use of a 1% sales tax.

The City Council approved the ordinance and developer agreements for the establishment of the Prairie Village Shopping Center CID and Corinth Square Shopping Center CID at the September 23, 2010 City Council meeting. The City has been working with Lane4 Property group since April on specific items which are eligible for funding through the CIDs. Each CID district will include a "signature project" which will start within the next two years. For instance, the "signature project" for the Prairie Village CID involves improvements along Mission Lane to make it more pedestrian friendly including new sidewalks, additional lighting, benches and modifications to the angle parking. The additional 1% sales tax will go into effect on January 1, 2011. For more information see the city web site www.pvkansas.com under Prairie Village News.

Holiday Gifts



Need a great Holiday gift for the person who has everything? The Prairie Village Arts Council continues to sell personalized bricks, which will be installed in the patio of the Community Center during June 2011. Prices for individualized bricks are \$35 and corporate sponsorships begin at \$100. Funds raised through the "Pave the Patio" project will cover the costs of the engraving and installing the bricks, and help support continued cultural arts programs for the community through the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation.

To purchase a brick, visit www.prairievillagearts.org and click on Pave the Patio. For additional information, contact Jeanne Koontz at 913-385-4661 or jkoontz@pvkansas.com.

The City also sells reusable shopping totes for \$5 each. The bags are insulated and have a zipper making them ideal for carrying groceries or taking to the pool. The money is used to support VillageFest, the City's Annual Fourth of July Celebration. Stop by the City Clerk's Office to purchase a tote.

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

City Hall & Municipal Court

7700 Mission Rd
 Quinn Bennion, City Administrator
 Dennis Enslinger, Assistant City Administrator
 Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk
 Bettina Jamerson, Municipal Court Administrator



Public Safety

7710 Mission Rd
 Wes Jordan, Chief of Police

Public Works

3535 Somerset Dr
 Keith Bredehoeft, Interim Public Works Director

913-381-6464 • info@pvkansas.com • www.pvkansas.com

Holiday Lights Permit

If your Holiday decorating includes stringing lights across City streets, public rights-of-way, or storm drainage channels, a right-of way permit is required for electrical and traffic safety.

For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 913-385-4640 or send an email to publicworks@pvkansas.com.

2011 Budget

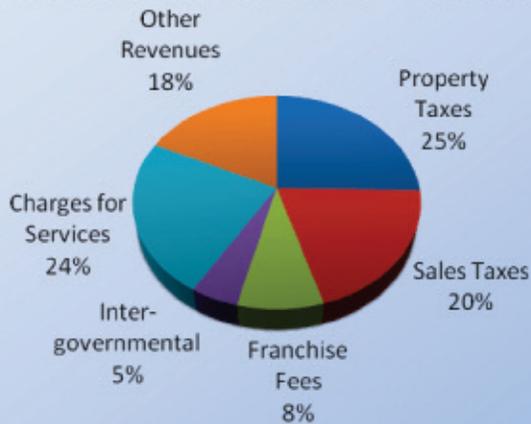
The annual budget serves as a financial plan, provides guidance to City staff and communicates the City's financial condition. Most importantly, it presents the Governing Body's vision for the community by describing how public funds will be spent in order to achieve policy objectives.

The next few pages provide an overview of the City's 2011 Budget and hopefully covers the items most important to the residents. A full version of the budget can be found at www.pvkansas.com. Questions about the budget can be directed to Karen Kindle, Finance Director at 913-385-4661 or kkindle@pvkansas.com.

Goals & Objectives for 2011 Budget

- Maintain high quality services and programs
- Maintain quality streets, parks and infrastructure
- Continue strong financial condition
- Maintain Aaa Bond rating
- Reduce reliance on fund balance and reserves
- Continue using an inclusive budget process
- Conduct a thorough review of all budget items at the staff level
- Review new revenue opportunities
- Plan for future needs by utilizing the reserve funds
- Assess and plan for technology needs

2011 Revenue Sources - All Funds



During the recent economic downturn, the City has experienced smaller revenue decreases than other communities in the area.

Property Tax: Tax on real estate and personal property. It is computed by applying the City's mill rate to the City's assessed valuation.

Sales Tax: Tax comes from two sources: Local Sales Tax and County Sales Tax.

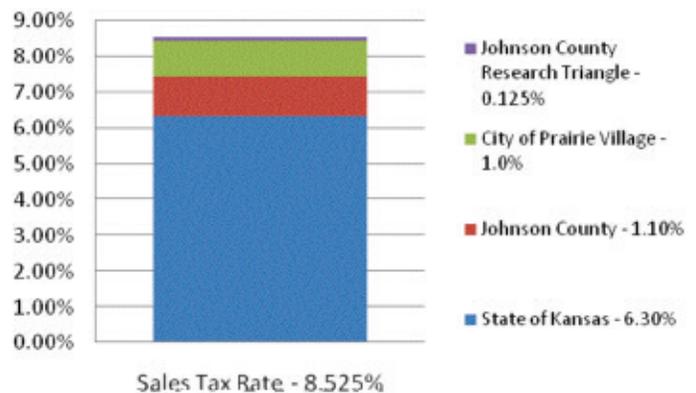
Franchise Fees: Franchise fees are charged on major utilities within the City. The fee is 5% of gross receipts as defined and permitted by state statutes.

Charges for Services: Includes revenue which is a charge for contract service and special assessments to recipients of certain services.

Intergovernmental: Includes revenues granted through other jurisdictions, primarily the State and Federal governments.

Other Revenues: Includes use tax, motor vehicle tax, liquor tax, license & permits, recreation fees, fines, interest income and miscellaneous revenue.

Sales Tax Rate



How are your property taxes used?

Your property tax bill is divided between several entities of which the City is only 16%.

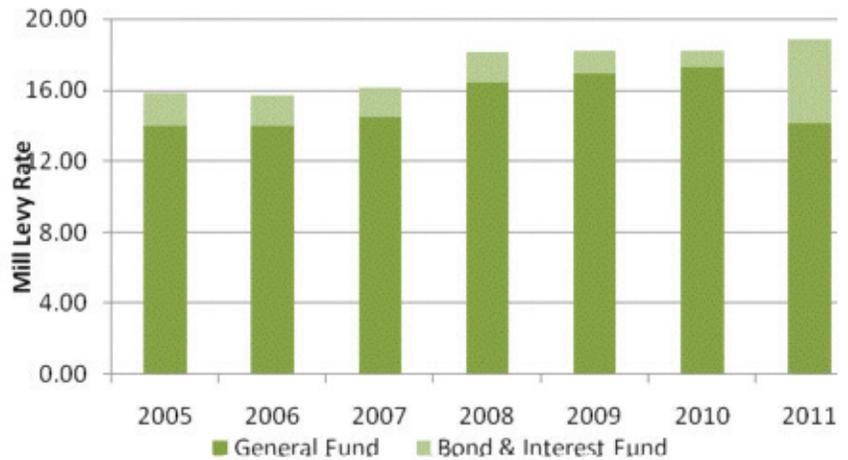


How is the Mill Levy used?

The Mill Levy Rate is applied to the assessed valuation for your property.

The 2011 budget includes a mill levy rate increase of 0.692 mills. The mill levy rate was last increased in 2008 by 2.0 mills.

Mill Levy Rate 2005-2011



How much of your property taxes are spent on City Services?

Residents Receive City Services

In 2010, the Average Market Value of a Prairie Village home is \$205,983. In 2011, on average a homeowner will pay \$37.25 each month for City services. The checkbook below illustrates how this amount is divided among various city programs.

Program	Monthly Cost
Public Safety	\$13.41
Public Works	\$12.67
Community Development	\$ 4.84
Administration	\$ 3.72
Parks & Recreation	\$ 1.49
Municipal Court	\$ 1.12

Average Homeowner City of Prairie Village	7555
	DATE <u>May 15, 2011</u>
PAY TO <u>THE CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE</u>	
<u>\$37.25</u>	
<u>Thirty-seven and 25/100*****DOLLARS</u>	
MEMO: <u>Monthly property tax for City Services</u>	<u>TAXPAYER</u>

What services are provided by City Programs?

Public Safety

Animal Control, Crime Prevention, Patrol, Investigations, DARE, Emergency Services

Public Works

Operate and maintain the City's drainage system, streets, buildings and grounds, swimming pool, tennis courts, parks and vehicles

Community Development

Building Permits, Code Enforcement and Solid Waste Management

Administration

Mayor and Council support, Management and Planning, Financial Management, Information Technology, Human Resources, Business Licensing, and Animal Licensing

Parks & Recreation

Arts Council programs, VillageFest, Swimming Pool, Aquatic Teams, Tennis program

Court

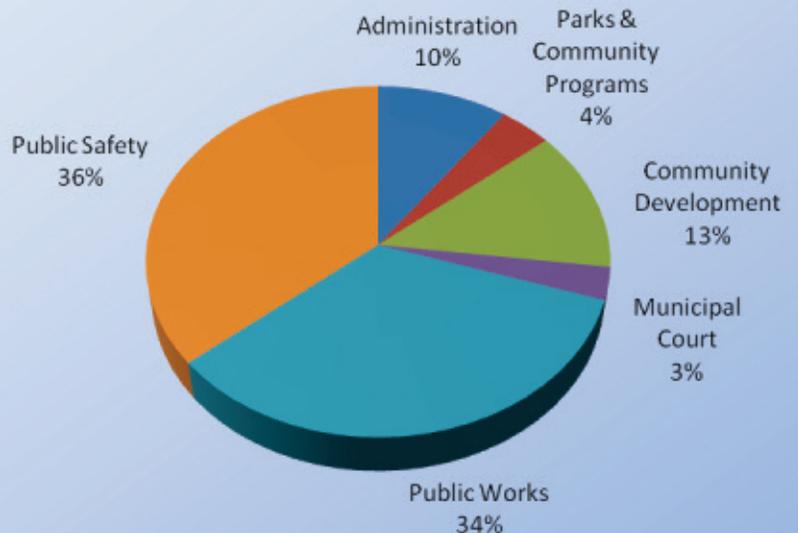
Municipal Judges, Prosecutor Services, Court Services

Your Property Taxes also include Special Assessments or Fees for Trash and Recycling Services and Stormwater System maintenance.

Annual Trash Fee: \$200.74

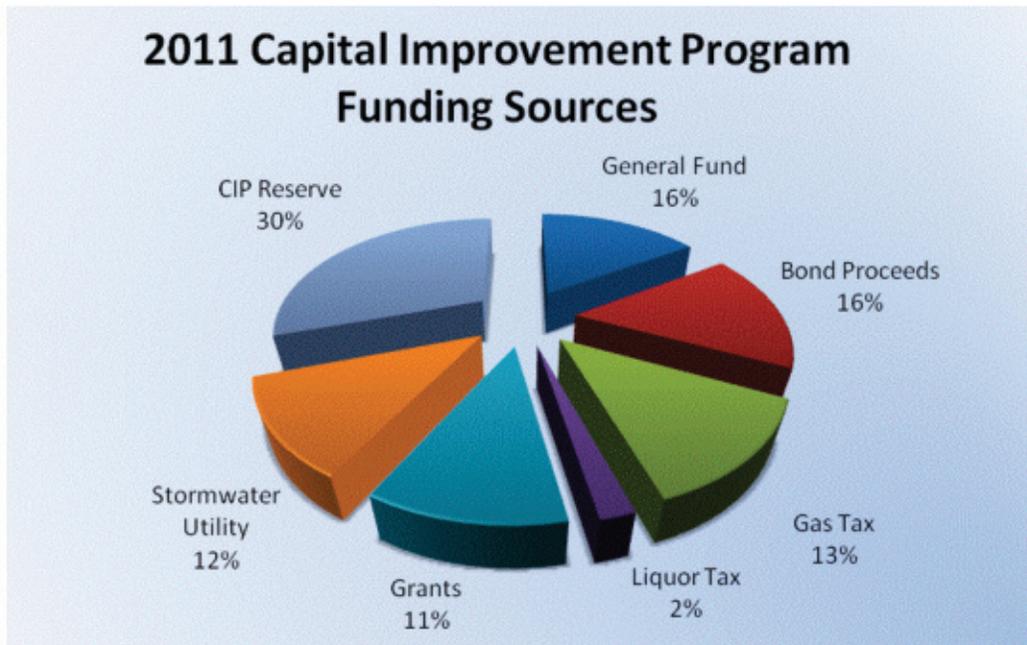
Stormwater Fee: \$0.039/sq ft of impervious area

2011 Budget by Department



Capital Infrastructure Program

The City maintains a four-year Capital Infrastructure Program (CIP) to aid the City Council and staff in planning and budgeting for the City's infrastructure needs. The CIP is reviewed and updated each year during the budget process. The majority of the funding for the CIP comes from the General Fund. Other funding sources include bond proceeds, the gas tax, the stormwater utility fee, grants/participation by neighboring cities and 1/3 of the liquor tax which is required to be spent on parks and recreation programs.



The CIP is divided into five sections.

Parks

Includes plans for redevelopment and replacement of existing park structures and materials.

Drainage

Includes plans for replacement of components of the City's storm drainage system.

Streets

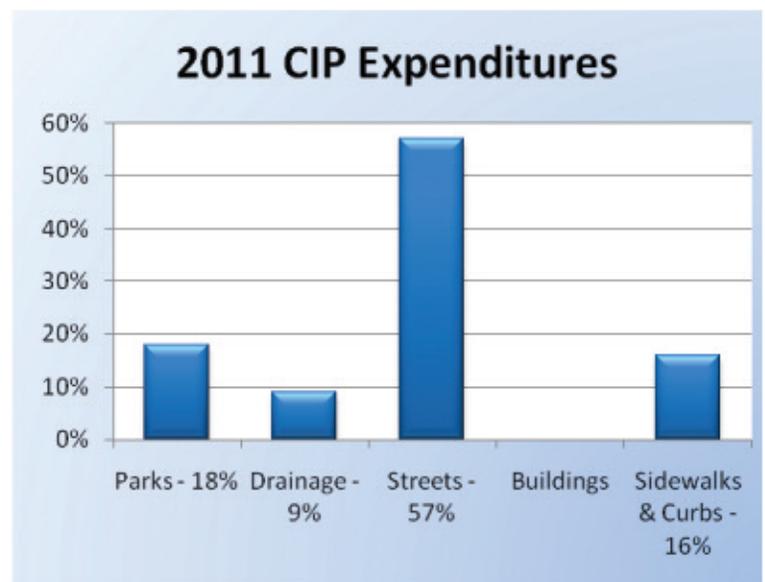
Includes plans for replacement of major improvements that extend the life of the City's street system.

Buildings

Includes plans for replacement or major improvements that extend the life of the City's buildings.

Sidewalks & Curbs

Includes plans for replacement or major improvements that extend the life of the City's sidewalk and curb system. Also includes plans for additions to the system to comply with the City's sidewalk policy or ADA regulations.



PV HAPPENINGS

Remodeling Your Home?

Are you replacing your windows to keep your house extra warm and cozy this winter? If you are remodeling or adding on to your home or property, make sure the contractors are meeting all the city's requirements. These requirements include a Johnson County contractor's license, a Prairie Village contractor's license, and a building permit before proceeding with construction.

It's especially important that contractors have their Johnson County license. Proof of a Johnson County license means the contractor is up to date on their continuing education classes and they have proof of insurance to cover liabilities.

A fence does not require a Johnson County license, but a Prairie Village license and building permit are still required to ensure proper placement.

To find contractors with an active Johnson County license please go to <http://cls.jocogov.org/clsCourseReg/searchcontractor.aspx>. For questions about building permits, contact the Building Department at 913-385-4604.

Yard Waste

Time to rake those leaves! When the trees change colors and the leaves fall to the ground, keeping your yard clean can be a nuisance. Fortunately, the City of Prairie Village and Deffenbaugh try to make this autumn task a little bit easier on you.

During November residents are allowed to set out 12 yard waste items per week. Please place yard waste in a biodegradable paper bag or a 35 gallon or less rigid container. A standard bundle is 4 feet in length and 18 inches in circumference is also permitted. Extra containers/bags may be set out, but require an overflow sticker with a cost of \$1.25 per item.

Overflow waste stickers are sold in sheets of 10 and are available at the following locations:

- Prairie Village City Hall, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS
- Westlake Hardware, 4049 Somerset, Prairie Village, KS
- Euston Hardware, 6955 Tomahawk Road, Prairie Village, KS
- Deffenbaugh Industries, 2601 Midwest Drive, Kansas City, KS

Gingerbread House Decorating Parties

The Prairie Village Municipal Foundation is proud to sponsor the second annual Gingerbread House Decorating Party on Sunday, December 12th. The Party will be held at the Prairie Village Community Center, 7720 Mission Rd, with sessions at 1:00 p.m., 2:30 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. A second party will be held at Brighton Gardens (7105 Mission Road) on Sunday, December 19th at 2:00 p.m.

Last year participants described the event as "magnificent family fun," a "treat for the entire family" and a "special holiday memory." Please join us this year to have some holiday fun of your own with your children, nieces, nephews, grandchildren, grandparents and friends. Or just come and decorate a house for your own holiday enjoyment!

When you make your reservation early – before December 1st, the fee will be \$35. After December 1st, the cost will increase to \$40. **ALL PROFITS** go towards scholarships at the PV pool for Prairie Village children in-need.

What better way to welcome the holidays than by building a Gingerbread House to admire (and nibble on) for weeks to come! Santa will attend the party to talk with you and maybe help you add a few decorations.

For reservations to the December 12th event at the Community Center, go to: www.prairievillagefoundation.org (click on "read more" to go to the reservation page). We accept Master Card, Visa, American Express, Discover or Pay Pal. If you prefer, you



can register and pay by check or cash at City Hall, 7700 Mission Rd. Reservations will be taken up through Friday, December 10th at noon. Bring your receipt to the event where it will be your ticket for the event and all the fun!

If you wish to attend the party at Brighton Gardens on December 19th, cash and check will be accepted. Sally Stuart, Brighton Gardens Activity Coordinator, will take reservations and payment. (Please make checks payable to the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation). Contact Sally at 913-262-1611. Payments should be dropped off directly to Brighton Gardens. Reservations for the December 19th event can be made through Friday, December 17th at noon.

Act now to reserve your place for these special parties.

Create a wonderful memory for your family while you create happy summer memories for Prairie Village children in need of help.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Drive Safely, Keep your Windows Clear

As we begin to transition from a HOT summer to cooler weather, it is important for drivers to allow a few extra minutes each morning to clear their windows of condensation, ice or snow before driving. The dangers associated with driving a vehicle without a clear view to the front and to the sides can be illustrated by a recent accident involving a car and a bicyclist in Prairie Village. The bicyclist, who had the right of way, was severely injured after being hit by a car whose driver did not see the bicycle approaching the intersection because the car's passenger side windows were obstructed. The driver had not cleaned the passenger side windows of condensation that developed overnight and was unable to see to the right. This accident was entirely preventable. Traffic ordinances in Prairie Village require drivers to have a clear view of the street in front, as well as any intersecting street, through the front windshield, side wings, and side windows. So, give yourself some extra time each



morning to defrost or scrape your windows before driving. You could save a life!!

Holiday Safety Tips

Winter time presents some new challenges to protect yourself and your property. Here are some tips for safety during the Holidays.

- Lock your doors and windows at all times
- Keep your blinds closed so no one can see the presents in your home
- Use security lights to help light the outside and warn away intruders
- When vacationing, hold the newspaper, mail and any other regular deliveries to your home. Set timers on lights, radios, or TVs to give the appearance that someone is home and moving around the residence.
- Do not post your travel plans on social networking sites like Facebook, MySpace, or Twitter
- Call the police department for a house watch on your residence while you are away
- Ask a neighbor to make tire tracks in the driveway when it snows to give the appearance someone is home
- When shopping, do not leave your bags unattended or in the shopping cart, it can be stolen very quickly
- Pay attention when walking in parking lots, especially when talking on your cell phone
- Keep valuable items out of sight in your vehicle. Do not leave any trace of navigation systems like cords, cradles, and ring marks.
- When you take the trash out after the holidays, avoid taking product boxes out to the curb. Leaving a TV, Wii, computer, or laptop box on the curb tells everyone who drives by what you have to steal.



Take the time now to be safety conscious when you are out shopping or around your home, it can save you time and money. Please be safe and have a happy holiday season.

Attend an informational meeting about residential burglaries and other crime issues on:

- Monday November 15, 2010 at 7:00 pm at Belinder School (7230 Belinder Avenue) or,
- Thursday November 18, 2010 at 7:00 pm at the Mission Road Bible Church (7820 Mission Road).

Reservations are not necessary, but would be appreciated. For reservations or questions, contact Crime Prevention Officer Matt Boggs at 913-385-4613 or e-mail mboggs@pvkansas.com.

COMMUNITY CORNER

50+ Programming at the Community Center



Come join CROSS TRAINING and get a total body workout! You'll feel the burn in this advanced class by cross training in interval, strength and endurance exercises. Improve cardiovascular fitness, tone up and feel great! A new 6- 50minute session began October 25th at the Prairie Village Community Center Mondays at 7:15 am.

Get FIT AND FEISTY with an energizing morning workout with this mix of low impact aerobics and strength training. Exercises stretch and tone your body while providing an effective cardiovascular workout. A new session featuring 7- 50minute classes began October 26th. Join us for class at

The
50
Plus
Program
Enjoy Life!

the Prairie Village Community Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:15am.

Relax and stretch with PILATES LITE to focus on core muscles and body alignments. Pilates Lite will use flowing movements, proper breathing techniques, flexibility, precision, centering and control. A new 5- 50 minute session began October 14th at the Prairie Village Community Center Thursdays at 8:30am.

These programs are brought to you by the Johnson County Park & Recreation District 50 Plus Program. Sign up for any program at least a week ahead of time at the Roeland Park office by calling (913) 826-3160.

Resident Spotlight

Frank J. Viscek has been a resident of the same house in Prairie Village since 1958. When he purchased the lot in 1956, his location on 79th Street wasn't even in the Prairie Village city limits. When he moved his young family, wife Florine and sons Frank, Denis and Robert (his 4th son Kevin was born in 1960) to Prairie Village from Kansas City, KS over 50 years ago, Mission Road was just a 2 lane street. There was no Corinth Square; the City Hall was below the Safeway store in the Prairie Village Shopping Center; and the library and barbershop were under the T G & Y. Meadow Lake Country Club was just a few blocks down the street and St. Ann's Catholic Church was much smaller than it is today.

Frank turned 90 years old on October 7th. He is an avid gardener. Although his garden is much smaller than it used to be, he still grows tomatoes, peppers, cucumbers, eggplant, horseradish, green beans, radishes and lettuce. He enjoys spending time with his sons and grandchildren and looks forward to dinner once a month with his brothers and sisters. Frank attends daily Mass at St. Ann's Catholic Church and is a member of the Knights of Columbus.

Frank is a proud WW II veteran, having served on the aircraft carrier, USS Bunker Hill in the Pacific. He is a member of the Bunker Hill's Alumni Association, VFW, American Legion, and Disabled Veteran's. In April, he was selected to take an Honor Flight to Washington DC with 50 other WW II veterans from the Kansas City area to tour the WW II Memorial, Arlington Cemetery and other memorials.

After the war, Frank returned to Kansas City to marry his wife of 63 years, Florine, who passed away in 2008. He worked in Kansas City's thriving garment industry, retiring in 1978. He spent 30 years with Smith Brothers Co., maker of Lounge Craft Robes.



VILLAGE GREEN

New Bus Route in Prairie Village

If you are heading to Waldo for some Pizza or are taking classes at Johnson County Community College or the KU Edwards Campus, things just got a little bit easier. The Jo has just added new services for 75th street from Quivira to Wornall.

The two new routes which have been added include Route 575 and Route 875. In Prairie Village you can get on a bus at 75th Street and Mission Road or 75th Street and Nall Avenue.

Route 575 runs on a set schedule from 6:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. and from 4:00 p.m. until 6:30 p.m. starting from the same location every half hour and arriving at each additional location every ten minutes.

Route 875 stops at the same locations as Route 575, but has fewer times and a flex schedule. On Route 875 buses you can be picked up or dropped off within three quarters of a mile from the route. This means you can be picked up at your home! But, you must schedule the bus to stop by at least one business day before you want to ride. Scheduling is available from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. To schedule a pick up simply call (913) 397-7300. Route 875 travels from Waldo to the KU-Edwards Campus along 75th Street and Quivira from 10:30 to 3:00. A new bus starts at their original location after an hour and half and stops are made in 12 minute intervals.

Both bus routes will make scheduled stops at 75th Street and

Metcalf, Antioch, and Quivira. You may also be picked up anywhere along the route. The bus will also stop at Oak Park Mall.

For a more complete schedule please go to:
<http://www.thejo.com/schedules.shtml>

